GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3175
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2005
REINSTATEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS
Rathod Shri Harisingh Nasaru;Varma Shri Ratilal Kalidas

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to reinstate Public Health Workers of the National Rural Health Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the number of Public Health Workers appointed in rural areas in 1977 under the said scheme;

(d) the details of funds spent thereon at that time; and

(e) the details of funds allocated to each State under the said scheme for 2005-2006?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): Under recently announced National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), it is proposed to have a new band of community based functionaries/link workers at village level, called Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) for any health related demands of deprived sections, especially women and children, who find it difficult to access health services.

(c) At the time of inception of Village Health Guide (VHG) Scheme, 4.12 lakh VHGs were selected. They were given an honorarium of Rs.50/- per month for their voluntary community service. The scheme was accepted by all States except Tamil Nadu, Kerala, J & K and Arunachal Pradesh.

(d) A provision of Rs.20 crores was being made every year for this Scheme.

(e) The details of the allocation to States under NRHM are yet to be finalised.